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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/606,304	06/25/2003	David Wayne Daniels	DEP5083	8039
27777	7590	07/07/2009		EXAMINER
PHILIP S. JOHNSON				HOFTMAN, MARY C
JOHNSON & JOHNSON				
ONE JOHNSON & JOHNSON PLAZA			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
NEW BRUNSWICK, NJ 08933-7003			3733	
			MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
			07/07/2009	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/606,304	DANIELS ET AL.
	Examiner MARY HOFFMAN	Art Unit 3733

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If no period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 22 April 2009.
 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-3 and 5-29 is/are pending in the application.
 4a) Of the above claim(s) 9-29 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
 6) Claim(s) 1-3, 5-8 is/are rejected.
 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
 10) The drawing(s) filed on 05 July 2008 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/946B)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application
 6) Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 04/22/2009 has been entered.

Specification

The specification is objected to as failing to provide proper antecedent basis for the claimed subject matter. See 37 CFR 1.75(d)(1) and MPEP § 608.01(o). Correction of the following is required: The claim terminology "angled connector" does not have antecedent basis in the specification.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

Claims 1-3 and 5-8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter

which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention. The claim recitation "wherein the first connector part defines a first connector axis and the second connector part defines a second connector part axis such that the first connector part axis is permanently skewed at a fixed angle relative to the second connector part axis" is being considered new matter. The specification does not appear to disclose the first connector part and the second connector part being permanently skewed, rather, the specification discusses that the first and second connector parts are coincident at a first position and skewed at a second position. Therefore, the limitation "permanently skewed" is not supported by the original disclosure.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-3 and 5-8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Kashuba et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,908,423).

Kashuba et al. disclose a reamer (see FIG. 2) for preparing a cavity in the intramedullary canal a long bone, the reamer comprising a first component (ref. #22) for preparation of the cavity in the canal, the first component including a portion thereof for

placement at least partially in the cavity of the long bone, the first component defining a rotational centerline thereof; and a rigid second component (ref. #44) operably connected to the first component, the second component defining a rotational centerline thereof, the rotational centerline of the first component and the rotational centerline of the second component having a first relationship in which the centerlines are coincident and a second relationship in which the centerlines are skewed with respect to each other (see FIG. 4). The reamer includes an angled connector (pin, ref. #12, col. 6, 66-end and col. 7, lines 1-3) to rigidly attach said first component to said second component, the angled connector having a first connector part adapted to be connected to the first component and a second connector part adapted to be connected to the second component, wherein the first connector part defines a first connector axis and the second connector part defines a second connector part axis such that the first connector part axis is capable of being permanently skewed at a fixed angle relative to the second connector part axis, and such that the first component is skewed relative to the second component when the first and second connector parts are connected to one another by means of the angled connector. See marked up figure below.

The reamer further comprises a joint (ref. #29, #47, FIG. 2) operably connected to the first component and to the second component, the joint adapted to provide the first relationship in which the centerlines are coincident and the second relationship in which the centerlines are skewed with respect to each other.

The angled connector is a pin (ref. #12) that is capable of being positioned at an angled.

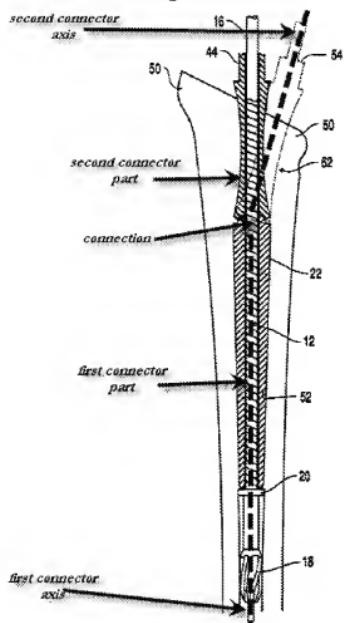
The first component includes a portion thereof having a tapered external periphery (see bottom of ref. #22); and wherein the second component includes a portion thereof having a drive connection (ref. #48a).

The reamer can be used in a femur. The first component and the second component are hinged to each other.

The first component and the second component define openings (ref. #24, #49) therein for receiving the pin.

See marked up figure, next.

Pin, ref #12, is the "angled connector"



Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments filed 04/22/2009 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Applicant argues that U.S. Pat. No. 5,908,423 to Kashuba et al. does not disclose "an angled connector to rigidly attach the first component to the second component. The angled connector includes a first connector part defining a first

connector part axis and a second connector part defining a second connector part axis, such that the first connector part axis is permanently skewed at a fixed angle relative to the second connector part axis." The examiner respectfully disagrees. Kashuba does include an angled connector (pin, ref. #12 that is capable of being and intended to be bent at an angled) that connects the components such that they are capable of being permanently skewed relative to one another, while in the second or skewed position. While it is true that the pin is a flexible rod, it is capable of permanently skewing the first component to the second component, depending on how it is used.

The rejections are deemed proper.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to MARY HOFFMAN whose telephone number is (571)272-5566. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday 10:00-5:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Eduardo C. Robert can be reached on 571-272-4719. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Mary C. Hoffman/
Examiner, Art Unit 3733

/Eduardo C. Robert/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 3733